

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR ( East Prussia)

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SUBJECT Neukuhren Harbor

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1. Neukuhren harbor (54°57'N, 20°15'E), which was completed in 1925 after many years of piecemeal construction, runs for about 200 meters along a flat sandy shore and extends about the same distance in breadth, thus almost forming a square.
2. The base of the harbor is formed by a 200-meter wooden jetty mounted on piles; between the jetty and the shore is a strip of water about 10 meters wide, bridged by two broad wooden gangways. The piers surrounding the harbor basin are constructed of natural stone blocks fitted together and covered with a layer of cement. In the cement is sunk a narrow-gauge track, which, however, is not in use and has no connection to the shore.
3. The depth of water in the harbor is about three meters. Large ships cannot approach more closely than an anchorage in the roads about 500 meters offshore.
4. A beacon is situated in the western corner of the basin, equipped with a lamp and foghorn. The electric power station and the harbor construction office lie about 150 meters west of the harbor. From the shore at the back of the harbor, a paved but very steep road rises 40 to 50 meters to the range of dunes; it is, however, scarcely usable because of the steepness of the grade.
5. Before the war, Neukuhren harbor was used exclusively by fishing vessels, but in 1945 all the fishermen fled with their boats. In May 1946, a formation of some 30 ex-German S-boats was transferred by the Soviets to Neukuhren; the crews were accommodated in the Flieger Kaserne in the vicinity of the training ground.
6. Coast defenses extend along the dunes from the point at Rantan as far as Loppönen (unlocated) and consist of a trench system with wire entanglements and concrete gun emplacements. These guns are manned by a battery of Soviet marine artillery, quartered near the training ground.

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